

Serial No. 09/973,624

3. Please leave claims 51-70 unchanged; and
4. Please cancel claims 71-79 without prejudice.

Remarks:

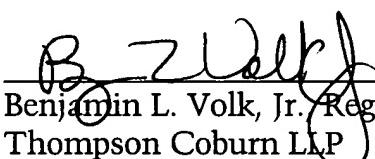
The restriction requirement requests election by Applicant of one of the following claim groups:

- Group I: Claims 1-28, and 51-70;
- Group II: Claims 29-50;
- Group III: Claims 71-75; and
- Group IV: Claims 76-79

Applicant *hereby elects the claims of group I without traversal* and cancels the claims drawn to the non-elected groups.

Further, the restriction requirement requests (1) election of one species for the primary particle genus (metals, intermetallics, metal matrix composites, ceramics, and non-metals), and (2) election of one species for the secondary material genus (salts and polymers). Pursuant to MPEP 803.02, Applicant hereby *provisionally elects "metals"* as the species for the primary particle genus and hereby *provisionally elects "salts"* for the secondary material genus.

Respectfully submitted,



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